United Nations

Press Release

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MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- Secretary-General to attend opening session of summit meeting of Organization of African Unity in Nigeria.

- Government of El Salvador and Frente Farabundo Marti para la Liberacion Nacional (FMLN) temporarily suspend talks in Venezuela.

- Secretary-General appoints new Acting Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management.

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Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar arrived on Sunday in Nigeria to attend the opening session of the twenty-seventh Assembly of Heads of State or Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). He was scheduled to address the session this afternoon.

His Spokesman told correspondents at Headquarters that earlier today Mr. Perez de Cuellar had chaired an inter-agency meeting on the situation in Ethiopia, particularly regarding that country's emergency humanitarian needs.

The Secretary-General had then met with Nelson Mandela, Vice-President of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), with whom he discussed the situation in South Africa and United Nations sanctions against that country.

He had also met with the Secretary-General of OAU for an exchange of views on developments in Ethiopia, the question of Western Sahara and the peace agreement in Angola.

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A United Nations spokesman announced today that the negotiating commissions of the Government of El Salvador and the Frente Farabundo Marti para la Liberacion Nacional (FMLN), with the participation of the

(more)

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Secretary-General's Personal Representative, Alvaro de Soto, had met from 25 May to 2 June in Venezuela. Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding had also participated, conducting talks on cease-fire arrangements.

The spokesman said the two sides had agreed on a recess of direct talks to allow internal consultations of each party, as well as with other political entities, as provided for in the Geneva Agreement. Direct talks were expected to resume towards the end of the second week of June, he said.

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The Secretary-General today appointed John Richard Foran as Acting Under-Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Administration and Management. Mr. Foran, a national of Canada, has been Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Office of General Services since 1987. He succeeds Martti Ahtisaari of Finland who is returning to the Foreign Service of his country.

Mr. Foran's appointment will take effect on 1 July. From 1 June to 1 July, he will be officer-in-charge of the Department of Administration and Management.

Mr. Foran has served with the United Nations since 1965 when he joined the Organization as a recruitment officer in the Office of Personnel Services. In the last several years, he has held a number of positions simultaneously with his post of Assistant Secretary-General in charge of General Services. Most recently, he has been the designated official responsible for coordinating the return of property from Iraq to Kuwait in accordance with Security Council resolution 686 (1991).

Mr. Foran has also served as the Secretary-General's representative for the Investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund since 1982; Member of the Board of Trustees and Finance Committee of the United Nations International School since 1987; Chairman of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions from 1990; Chairman of the Appointment and Promotion Board from 1989 to 1991; Acting Secretary, Administrative Committee on Coordination and Chairman of the Organizational Committee from 1988 to 1990; and Chairman of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions from 1987 to 1990.

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